

IC 74-2138

26 DEC 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Preparation of a National-Level
 Intelligence Product During Periods
 of International Crisis

1. The reporting and analysis provided national consumers during an international crisis is overlapping and redundant. It is also costly. It is time, we think, to see if these problems can be diminished through a joint, USIB-sponsored community effort.

- The material contained in various CIA, DIA, and INR crisis situation reports is about 90 percent redundant.
- Differences in data and analysis in these reports tend to confuse rather than clarify.
- Excessive time and effort is expended in an interagency effort to coordinate their essentially repetitive products.
- Readers of the various crisis SITREPs have complained to us about the problems created by these redundant products.

2. I have asked [] and his Product Review staff to test the waters in this regard. He finds Dick Lehman ready to tackle the problem and Danny Graham, while a bit more hesitant, willing to give the issue a careful review.



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Approved For Release 2004/05/05 : CIA-RDP80M01082A000900060003-8

3. I suggest you address this issue briefly, per the attached Talking Points, at an early USIB meeting and indicate that you have asked me to set up an interagency ad hoc working group to review the matter and make recommendations.

/s/ Samuel V. Wilson

Samuel V. Wilson
Lieutenant General, USA
D/DCI/IC

Attachment

Distribution:

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1 - DDCI

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① IC Registry

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[redacted]:mjs (19 Nov 74)

Retyped for changes/[redacted]:ml (23 Dec 74)

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A Proposal for Consideration by USIB

SUBJECT: Preparation of a National Intelligence Situation Summary
During Periods of International Crisis

As you know, the responsiveness of the intelligence community's products to the needs of national consumers is one of my paramount interests. One area of particular concern to me is that of intelligence reporting and analysis during a major crisis. There is, unfortunately, a high degree of repetitiveness and overlap in the community's crisis products, and this has been noted by our consumers.

For this reason I think we should try to determine the feasibility of producing a single national intelligence report during times of crisis.

In the spirit of learning to walk before we run, I think we need to test our capability to produce such a product. Dick Lehman has suggested that one way of doing this would be to agree upon some sensitive area which is currently not in crisis for our test. Then have the principal production agencies devote a few hours, one day a week to testing our capability--including our communications capability--to produce a real time national intelligence situation report.

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I suggest that we form an ad hoc committee under the aegis of the Intelligence Community Staff to examine the feasibility of this proposal. We worked out the modus operandi for the National Intelligence Bulletin in this way, and a similarly structured committee could make specific recommendations concerning such a test and the production of an intelligence community crisis report.

If we all agree, I would propose that we form the committee now and then start tests around the first of February.

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USIB-D-71.11/10

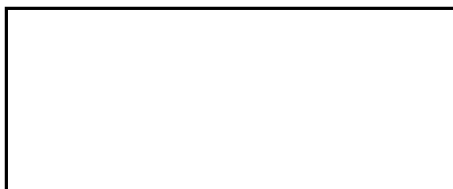
3 January 1975

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Preparation of a National Intelligence
Situation Summary During Periods
of International Crisis

The attached memorandum from the Chairman, United States
Intelligence Board has been placed on the agenda for Board discussion
at its meeting on 9 January 1975.



Executive Secretary

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Attachment

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Attachment
USIB-D-71.11/10
3 January 1975

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Preparation of a National Intelligence
Situation Summary During Periods of
International Crisis

1. As you know, the responsiveness of the intelligence community's products to the needs of national consumers is one of my paramount interests. One area of particular concern to me is that of intelligence reporting and analysis during a major crisis. There is, unfortunately, a high degree of repetitiveness and overlap in the community's crisis products, and this has been noted by our consumers.

2. For this reason I think we should try to determine the feasibility of producing single national intelligence situation reports during times of crisis.

3. In the spirit of learning to walk before we run, I think we need to test our capability to produce such a product. Dick Lehman has suggested that one way of doing this would be to agree upon some sensitive area which is currently not in crisis for our test. Then have the principal production agencies devote a few hours, one day a week to testing our capability--including our communications capability--to produce a real time national intelligence situation report.

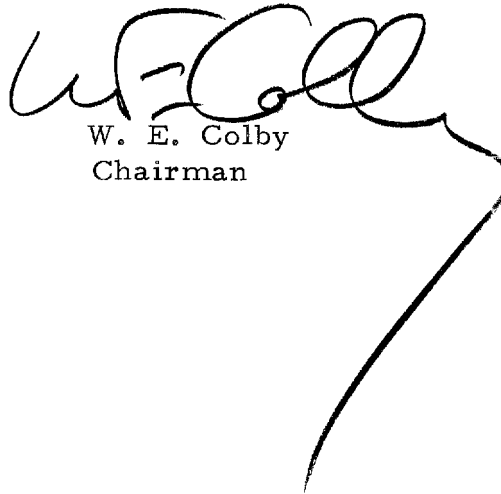
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Attachment
USIB-D-71.11/10
3 January 1975

5. If we all agree, I would propose that we form the committee now and then start tests around the first of February.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. E. Colby'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

W. E. Colby
Chairman

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30 DEC 1974

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| TO | NAME AND ADDRESS | DATE | INITIALS |
| 1 | Director of Central Intelligence | 12/27 | WEC/1/8 |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | D/DCI/IC | | |
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| 6 | | | |
| ACTION | | DIRECT REPLY | PREPARE REPLY |
| APPROVAL | | DISPATCH | RECOMMENDATION |
| COMMENT | | FILE | RETURN |
| CONCURRENCE | | INFORMATION | SIGNATURE |
| Remarks: | | | |
| <p>"Single Sit-Reps during Crises" -</p> <p>For your consideration -</p> <p>Yes - Put on</p> <p>11S1B agenda -</p> | | | |
| RETURN TO SENDER | | | |
| D PHONE NO. | | DATE | |
| General Wilson, D/DCI/IC | | 26/11 | |
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